

## §7.2

State committees (“county committees” and “State committees,” respectively). State and county committees will be under the general supervision of the FSA Administrator.

(b) State and county committees, and representatives and employees of those committees, do not have authority to modify or waive any of the provisions of this part.

(c) State committees will take any actions required by these regulations that have not been taken by a county committee. State committees will also:

(1) Correct, or require a county committee to correct, any action taken by such county committee that is not in accordance with this part, or

(2) Require a county committee to withhold taking any action that is not in accordance with this part.

(d) No provision or delegation to a State or county committee will preclude the FSA Administrator, or designee, from determining any question arising under this part, or from reversing or modifying any determination made by a State or county committee.

(e) These regulations will be administered in accordance with the Uniform Guidelines for Conducting FSA County Committee Elections.

(f) Unless specifically provided in this part, the Deputy Administrator, Field Operations, FSA (Deputy Administrator), is authorized to issue the official instructions and procedures referred to in this part to implement the provisions of this part.

(g) This part applies to the United States, its territories, and Puerto Rico.

## §7.2 General.

State and county committees will, as directed by the Secretary, or a designee of the Secretary, carry out the programs and functions of the Secretary.

## §7.3 Definitions.

The following definitions apply to this part. The definitions in §718.2 of this title also apply to this part, except where they conflict with the definitions in this section.

*Cooperate* means to enroll a farming operation or agricultural property with a county office.

## 7 CFR Subtitle A (1–1–15 Edition)

*Deputy Administrator* means Deputy Administrator for Field Operations, Farm Service Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture or the designee.

*Local administrative area* means an elective area for FSA committees in a single county or multi-county jurisdiction.

*Participate* means to receive assistance, services, or benefits directly from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), or from USDA indirectly through another governmental agency.

*Socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher* is an individual or entity who is a member of a group whose members have been subject to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities. These groups consist of: American Indians or Alaskan Natives, Asians, Blacks or African Americans, Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders, Hispanics, and women.

*State committee* means the FSA State committee.

*Uniform Guidelines* means the Uniform Guidelines for Conducting Farm Service Agency County Committee Elections, which are available in FSA Handbook 15-AO.

## §7.4 Selection of committee members.

(a) State committee members will be selected by the Secretary and will serve at the pleasure of the Secretary.

(b) County committee members will be elected as specified in §7.11 of this part or appointed as specified in §7.17 of this part.

## §7.5 Eligible voters.

(a) Persons must meet the requirements of paragraphs (b) or (c) of this section to be eligible to vote in direct elections of county committee members.

(b) Farmers and ranchers who are of legal voting age in the State in which their farms or ranches are located, regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status, and any farmers or ranchers not of legal voting age who are in charge of the supervision and conduct of the farming operations